



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 30, 2023

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JEFFRIES.HOUSE.GOV

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Paerdegat Basin Living Shoreline for STEM Education and Coastal Protection project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Billion Oyster Project Inc, located at 10 South Street, Slip 7, New York, NY 10004. The funding would be used to construct a 5 acre, 60M oyster reef and living shoreline to restore once natural green infrastructure, providing much-needed coastal resilience benefits in the form of nearshore habitat enhancements that bolster and protect sensitive shoreline ecosystems from significant storms. In addition, access points throughout the Basin will create world-class STEM education opportunities for students working with the Billion Oyster Project in the neighboring public schools. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will expand STEM educational opportunities for thousands of NYC school students in Brooklyn's environmental justice communities of Canarsie and Bergen Beach, while restoring the historic oyster reef in the Basin and providing shoreline and storm surge protection to the communities.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

  
HAKEEM JEFFRIES  
Member of Congress